

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 16115 201306Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 OPR-02 A-01 /053 W
-----061528 201327Z /14

O 201248Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1848
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE
DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CINCMAC SCOT AFB IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC IMMEDIATE
SAC OFFUT AB IMMEDIATE
COMJTF7A FORT BRAGG IMMEDIATE
REDCOM MACDILL AB FLORIDA IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CINCEUR IMMEDIATE
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T PARIS 16115

E.O. 11632: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PEPR, CG, FR
SUBJECT: SHABA INCURSION: US UNDERTAKINGS TO FRANCE

REF: STATE 127772

1. IN CONNECTION WITH THE US SUPPORT PROVIDED TO FRANCE
IN THE SHABA OPERATION, WE REVIEWED WITH PRESIDENTIAL
ADVISOR FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS RENE JOURNIAC WHAT WE HAD
DONE OR WERE IN THE PROCESS OF DOING PER REFTEL. WE
TOLD HIM THAT THESE COMMITMENTS WILL SHORTLY HAVE BEEN
FULFILLED AND THAT WE WISHED NOW TO END OUR SUPPORT

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ACTIVITIES. BEFORE DOING SO, HOWEVER, WE WANTED TO
INFORM THE GOF OF OUR INTENTION. WE TOLD HIM THAT IF A
NEW CRITICAL SITUATION WERE TO ARISE WE WOULD CONSIDER
FURTHER REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE.

2. JOURNIAC SAID THAT THE GOF WAS MOST GRATEFUL FOR
WHAT WE HAD DONE. HE UNDERSTOOD OUR DESIRE TO TERMI-

NATE OUR SUPPORT OPERATION. HE SAID THAT SINCE THIS WAS ESSENTIALLY A MILITARY MATTER HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY INFORM THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES OF OUR DESIRE TO TERMINATE OUR LOGISTIC SUPPORT OPERATIONS.

3. DATT (WHO HAD NOT SEEN REFTTEL PRIOR TO MEETING) SAW GEN. MERY, CHIEF OF STAFF, FRENCH ARMED FORCES, AT 1100Z TODAY; MERY ECHOED FRENCH APPRECIATION FOR SUPPORT TO DATE ESPECIALLY C-5. MERY VOLUNTEERED THAT HE FORESAW NO FURTHER REQUIREMENT FOR US AIRLIFT SUPPORT AT THIS TIME. AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE -- NOT SOONER THAN 10 DAYS OR 2 WEEKS -- THE FRENCH WILL HAVE TO MOVE THEIR LEGIONAIRES BACK TO FRANCE. AT THAT TIME THEY WILL PROBABLY REQUEST US ASSISTANCE. GEN. MERY HAS TRANSMITTED THIS FORECAST TO HQ EUCOM BY WAY OF HIS LIAISON OFFICER.

4. IN A GENERAL COMMENT ON THE OPERATION, JOURNIAC SAID THAT IT HAD GONE WELL BUT THE SITUATION FOUNDED BY THE LEGIONAIRES WAS HIDEOUS AND THAT A DELAY OF EVEN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS IN GOING IN COULD HAVE RESULTED IN A DISASTROUS SITUATION.
HARTMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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